



MEMO

To: City Council

Date: September 10, 2015

From: Tex Bradford

Re: Cable TV Franchise Transfer

We received notice on July 2, 2015 that Time Warner Cable would be merging with Charter Communications and therefore transferring control of the existing cable TV franchise between Time Warner and the City to Charter Communications. We have 120 days from the date we received the notice to respond with a resolution drafted by our city consultant, River Oaks Communications, and adopted by City Council accepting the proposed transfer of the franchise. Should we not respond within the 120 day time period the transfer will occur with a resolution drafted by Time Warner/Charter. The Time Warner/Charter resolution may not be in the best interest of the City.

Bob Duchon of River Oaks Communication drafted the attached resolution and Time Warner has agreed to the language of the resolution drafted by Bob. Although Bob is a communications consultant he also has a law degree and has represented the city a number of times since the late 90's.

The current Cable TV Franchise was renewed with Time Warner in 2009 for a period of ten years. The franchise does have a provision allowing for the transfer of control of the franchise should the company sell or merge as in this case.

Staff recommends council approval and adoption of the attached Resolution at the next available regular council session on October 13, 2015.